UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1999/1134
5 November 1999

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 2 NOVEMBER 1999 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

As members of the Security Council are aware, since its establishment on 15 April 1995, the United Nations Political Office for Somalia (UNPOS) has been monitoring closely the situation in and relating to Somalia and assisting me in providing periodic briefings and written reports to the Council. UNPOS has also continued to assist my efforts to advance the cause of peace and reconciliation in Somalia, in consultations with Somalis and the States and organizations concerned.

In September 1997, the members of the Council supported a more active role for the United Nations in coordinating international mediation efforts on Somalia and agreed with my decision to strengthen UNPOS, whose activities were described most recently in my report of 16 August 1999 (S/1999/882). Given the very important and useful role of UNPOS and the support expressed by the Security Council for continued United Nations involvement in the search for peace in Somalia, I would appreciate the support of the Council for my decision to continue the activities of the Office for the biennium 2000-2001. The activities of UNPOS could be expanded and its staff strengthened with the approval of the Security Council in the context of its review of the role of the United Nations in Somalia.

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kofi A. ANNAN

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